

Edward Webbe

His  
Travels

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1895

Author's original signatures

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# English Reprints

## EDWARD WEBBE

Chief Master Gunner

## His Trauailes

1590

EDITED BY

EDWARD ARBER

F.S.A. ETC. LATE EXAMINER IN ENGLISH

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

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1895

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CHRONICLE  
of  
some of the principal events  
in the  
LIFE, ADVENTURES, and TIMES  
of  
EDWARD WEBBE,  
Master Gunner, sometime Chief Master Gunner of France.

\* Probable or approximate dates.

WEBBE, apparently an unlettered man, goes confusedly backward and forward in his narration, so as to render any chronology of his life little better than guesswork. Some points can be fixed with certainty: from which it is clear, that when he gives years he speaks in round numbers; 13 meaning over 12 years; and the like.

1553. July 2. Mary succeeds to the crown.

\*1554. Edward Webbe, born at St. Katherines, near the Tower of London. Is the son of Richard Webbe, Master Gunner of England, p. 17.

1558. Nov. 17. Elizabeth begins to reign.

1566-67. "My father . . . did prefer me to the seruice of  
at 12-14. Captaine Jenkenson, at such time as he was sent Ambassador into Russia . . . and vpon him I was daylie attendant. . . . There [at Moscow] I staide 3 yeeres attendant on my master," pp. 17, 18.

This statement fixes Webbe's birth in 1554. For prior to the burning of Moscow, Captain Anthony Jenkenson made but three voyages to Russia.

The first, 1557-60, included a visit to Bokhara; see Hakluyt, i. 310-338, Ed. 1599.

The second, 1561-64, included a visit to Persia: see Hakluyt, i. 338-352.

The third, 1566-68, is thus given in Hakluyt, i. 372.

"A very briefe remembrance of a voyage made by M. Anthony Jenkinson, from London to Moscouia, sent from the Queenes Maiestie to the Emperour, in the yeere 1566.

"The fourth day of May in the yeere aforesaid, I imbarke my selfe at Grauesend, in the good ship called the *Harry of London*, and hauing had a prosperous voyage arriuied at the bay of S. *Nicholas* [in the White Sea] in *Russia* the 10 day of July following, and immediately I sent in post to the Emperour to aduertise of my comming and trauelling then thorow the countrey, I with my company came to the *Mosco* where the Emperour kept his court, the 23. of August, and foorthwith gaue the Secretarie to understand my arriuall, who aduertised the Emperours Maiestie, and the first day of September, being a solemne feast among the *Russes*, I came before the Emperours Maiestie, sitting in his seate of honour, and hauing kissed his hand, and done the Queens Maiesties commendations, and deliuered her Graces letters and present, he had me to dinner, which I accepted, and had much honour done vnto me both then and all the time of my abode in *Russia*."

Goes again to Russia.

A slave in the Crimea.

A galley-slave in Turkey.

Captain Jenkinson appears to have remained in or about Moscow, until his return, which accounts for Webbe only alluding to the Russians, while with him.

1570. æt. 16. Webbe again goes out to Russia—this time to Narva, in the Gulf of Finland—in the English Russia fleet of 13 ships, under Captain William Burrough.

July 10. The fleet capture 5 ships of Danish rovers at Turree island. For the official account of this fight, see Note 1. Webbe adds additional information as to the fate of the prisoners.

He appears to have remained through the winter at Moscow, for before the English fleet arrived next year,

1571. May 24. Moscow was burnt by the Crim-Tartars. For two accounts of which see Note 2.

Webbe escapes the fire and the crush only to become a slave. Giles Fletcher, writing twenty years later on, tells us,—

“The chiefe bootie the Tartars seeke for in all their warres, is to get store of captiues, specially yong boys and girls, whom they sell to the *Turkes*, or other their neighbors. To this purpose, they take with them great baskets made like bakers panniers to carrie them tenderly, and if any of them happen to tyer, or to be sickle on the way, they dash him agaist the ground, or some tree and so leave him dead.” *Of the Russe Commonwealth*, fol. 60.

Webbe, with seven other Englishmen, is taken to Kaffa in the Crimea.

After some time (Webbe states five years), they are ransomed for 300 crowns = £112:10:0 of then English money, each.

It was probably on this return home, through Russia, that Webbe lost his all in the wreck of the *Hart*, 12 miles from Narva.

1566, May, 1. *Selim II. becomes Sultan of Turkey.*

1571. Oct. 7. ‘The Sea-fight at Lepanto.’ Don John of Austria, at the head of 203 galleys, and 6 great Venetian galeasses, fights the Turkish fleet of 240 galleys and 60 smaller vessels: and gains an immense victory, sinking 94 ships and capturing 130 more. 30,000 Turks are slain, and 15,000 Christian galley-slaves released from slavery.

Webbe sails in the *Henry* of London for Leghorn, p. 19.

At Palermo, sees the Earl of Oxford give his challenge, p. 32.

Don John retakes the town of Tunis from the Turks. The Spaniards had held the citadel already. Webbe states he was there in the *Royal*, p. 35.

From Leghorn the *Henry* is sent to Alexandria; with a crew of 60 men, among whom, and apparently for the first time, Webbe is Master gunner, p. 19.

Returning from Alexandria, the *Henry* is, after a fight of 48 hours, captured by the Turks, p. 19. Webbe is made a galley-slave.

1574. Dec. 21. *Amurath III. (Murad Khan) becomes Sultan.*

1576. May 11. *Thamasp I., Shah of Persia, dies.*

A disputed succession leads to fierce contests and national disorder in Persia. Amurath determines to conquer it.

1578.

First campaign against Persia, from Erzeroum; under Mustapha Pasha (the conqueror of Cyprus). It is indecisive.

1579.

Mustapha Pasha has a second indecisive campaign. He is recalled, and arrives in Constantinople 9 May 1580. Sinan Pasha appointed in his stead.

\*1580.

Webbe, 'constrained for want of victuals,' discovers his skill in gunnery. Has to serve in the Persian war.

1582.

June 1—July 22. Amurath circumcises his eldest son Mahomet. Feasting for 52 days and nights. See *J. von Hammer*.

æt. 28.

Nov. 14. Webbe makes a wonderful piece of fireworks, pp. 28, 29. 'The tall shippe called the *Susan of London* [24 guns]: the Master whereof was *Richard Parsons*' leaves Blackwall, and

1583. Jan. 14.

Embarks, at the Isle of Wight, Master *William Harborne* and suite; being the first English Ambassador to the Great Turk.

Mar. 29.

Mr. Harborne lands at Constantinople, and remains there 5 years.

The remainder of Webbe's travels while in slavery can only be put down as they are given to us.

Ali Pasha—a renegade Christian—with 60 gallies attempts his native town in Calabria.

From the Army in Persia, Webbe is taken by Damascus to Cairo.

At the Red sea, sees the *Grand Maria*.

Thence to Goa in the East Indies.

Thence by Bethlehem, Jerusalem, &c., again to Damascus

Thence to the land of Prester John [? Turkistan] 'within 18 degrees [= 1080 miles] of the sun.'

Returns to Constantinople in time of famine, 'an English penny loaf of bread being worth a crown of gold.'

Is imprisoned in iron chains, grievously pinched with extreme penury at Constantinople, with 2000 other Christian slaves.

Webbe, on behalf of 500 Christian slaves, works through a 14 feet wall. Their attempt to escape is discovered, and they are punished, p. 28.

1585. Oct. 29.

The Grand-Vizier, Osman Pasha dies.

1588.

æt. 34.

'Soone after the death of the great Basha' Mr. Harborne ransoms about 20 English men, 'whereof' Webbe 'was one of the last.'

Journeying towards England, he came by land to Venice. Then singularly enough, goes southward through Italy.

At Padua, he is tried for a heretic.

At Ferrara, he is well entertained.

At Bologna, an Englishman, a Catholic Bishop, Doctor Poole, shows him great friendship.

At Florence, he meets another Englishman, Mr. John Stanley.

At Rome, he is 19 days in trouble with the Pope and Cardinal Allen, but they let him pass, giving him 25 crowns. The English College however make a fool of him and imprison him three days, from which he is delivered by another Englishman.

\*Aug.

He is reviled with lying rumours as to the success of the Spanish Armada.

Aug. 3.

Mr. Harborne and suite leave Constantinople; return-

Journey to England

to France.

1589. \*Feb.

ing home viâ the Danube, Poland, and the Hanse towns.  
*Hakluyt*, i. 400.

At Naples, Webbe is denounced by a Genoese as an English spy. Is 16 days in a dark dungeon: 'thrice had I ye strappado.' Is further imprisoned 7 months.

He petitions the Viceroy. The King appoints him one of his gunners, with 35 crowns a month.

Naturally he seizes the first opportunity of escape. Finally does get away in the *Grace of London*, Nicholas Nottingham, Master.

May 1. aet. 35. WEBBE ARRIVES IN ENGLAND, after 13 years absence.

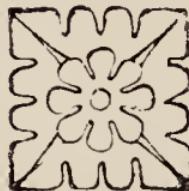
May to Nov. Visits his friends.

Nov. Goes over into France. Henry IV. appoints him Chief Master Gunner in the field.

1590. Mar. 14. Battle of Ivry. Henry IV. beats the League, p. 34.  
Set. 30. Jealous French gunners poison Webbe. He is saved by 'Unicorn's horn.' and returns to England.

Takes lodgings in a lackwall, where he writes his narrative, finally on

May 19 He dedicates his book.



# THE TRAVELS OF EDWARD WEBBE.

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## *INTRODUCTION.*



HE dread of the Great Turk pervading Christendom, in the days of Queen Elizabeth, is a thing hard of apprehension to the present generation of Englishmen.

Beyond the comparatively petty intestine quarrels of Christian princes, there seemed surely surging onwards the great wave of Mahomedan invasion. In numbers incalculable, in numbers apparently inexhaustible, the Turks had poured into Europe. Hardly a century had expired since they had blotted out the Eastern Roman Empire,—the venerable polity of eleven centuries, the bridge between ancient and modern history. Within that century, they had conquered Greece, Egypt, Rhodes, and Cyprus; had penetrated into Italy; and had carried devastation through Hungary, to the very walls of Vienna. Even now the southern nations of Europe were grappling with them, as in a death struggle. Crushing defeats, such as 'The great sea-fight of Lepanto,' and they were rare enough, seemed hardly to diminish the numbers or check the power of the Turks, or to procure for the Christians even a moment's breathing time. Need we wonder, then, if

ofttimes men's hearts failed them, for fear, for dread, and for despair?

With the power of the Great Turk consider the might of the king of Spain. In addition to Spain, the Low Countries, Naples, and Sicily, Philip II. possessed colonies in the New World, in the aggregate as vast as Christendom itself. He was the most potent Christian king, drawing fabulous riches from the New World for the maintenance of large armies and fleets in the Old, which he employed as much in extinguishing the liberties of his subjects as in attempting to crush those who chose to win for themselves and their posterity, at the utmost hazard of their all, the precious essentials of existence: freedom of thought, of action, and of worship.

Contrasted with these two Empires, then at their zenith, the position of England, as an European state, was comparatively insignificant. To the Turks, the English were but a hardy variety of Christians, to whom—following their custom with regard to all the foreign nations with which they came in contact—they gave the designation, as an appropriate nickname, of 'The Clothiers.' To the Spaniards, they were execrable heretics, doomed to be conquered by them in this world, and to endless torment in the next.

Nothing but utterly reckless daring, nothing but almost superhuman endurance and courage, nothing but a national character deeply imbued with the simplest reliance upon the Saviour of mankind, could save—did save our island home from the ultimate grasp of one or other of these mighty despoticisms.

By the good providence of God, the scale has been turned. Victoria benignly rules an Eastern Empire

more populous than that of Amurath ; fosters colonies larger and richer—richer not only in gold ‘that perisheth,’ but in all the constituents of human happiness, all the elements of human progress—than ever possessed Philip II. ; and is enthroned in the hearts of a people more united and infinitely more powerful than were ever the subjects of her great predecessor, Elizabeth.

Though the following jottings from the memory—enfeebled by suffering—of ‘a simple man void of learning,’ are of but little historical value; they give us a passing glimpse of the vast whirlwind of conflicting forces then raging over Southern Europe; of some of the dangers that beset English commerce beyond the narrow seas ; and of that English pluck and endurance which won unto itself the power and renown which have come down to us from our forefathers.

Webbe is every inch an Englishman. In nothing more so than in the cheerful, modest, yet dauntless desire with which—after having through eighteen years of slavery experienced what could be inflicted upon him by the severity of the Tartars, by the harsher cruelty of the Turks, and by the still fiercer ferocity of the Christians—he concludes his narrative:—‘I shall be glad and do daylie desire that I may be employed in some such service as may be profitable to my Prince and Cuntry.’ The epic of modern history is to be found in the Elizabethan age.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY.

### EDWARD WEBBE HIS TRAUAILLES.

#### (a) Issues in the Narrator's life time.

##### *I. As a separate publication.*

1. [1590]. London. *Editio princeps*: fee title on opposite page. It has no wood cuts. [Of this first edition the only other Copy as yet known is that purchased at Naffau's sale by Mr. Jadis, at whose sale again it was purchased for £14 14s. *Grenville Catalogue, British Museum.*] Printed by A. J. for VVilliam Barley, dwelling in Gratious strcete neere leaden hall.

2. [1590]. London. 1 vol. 4to.

3. 1590. London. 1 vol. 4to.

A reprint of No. 1; with the addition of six woodcuts, one of which, repeated also as a frontispiece, represents Webbe as a young man walking.

*Second edition.* Newly enlarged and corrected by the Author. London. Printed for William Wright. 1590. With six woodcuts, five of which are those of No. 2: the portrait of Webbe, also repeated as a frontispiece, being altered to an older man firing a cannon.

The only important addition is the following in the 'Epistle to the Reader.'

'And whereas in the first edition of this booke a great fault in number did negligently escape in Folio 3 [see page 21.] in these wordes 30 thousand for 300 thousand: and 50 thousand for 500 thousand. that fault is truely amended in this Edition.' These alterations have been made in the present edition.

#### (b) Issue subsequent to the Narrator's death.

##### *I. As a separate publication.*

4. 1 May 1868. London. 1 vol. 8vo. *English Reprints*: fee title at page 1.



*THE*

Rare and most vvonderful  
thinges which Edward Webbe  
an Englishman borne, hath seene and passed  
in his troublesome trauailes, in the Citties of Ieru-  
salem, Dammasko, Bethelem and Galely: and  
in the Landes of Iewrie, Egipt, Gtecia,  
Russia, and in the Land of Prester Iohn.

Wherein is set foorth his extreame flauerie sust-  
ained many yeres togither, in the Gallies and wars  
of the great Turk against the Landes of Persia,  
Tartaria, Spaine, and Portugall, with the  
manner of his releasement, and comming  
into Englande in May last.

*LONDON,*

Printed by Ralph Blower, for Thomas Pauier, &  
are to be folde at his shop in Corn-hill, at the signe of the Cat and  
Parrats, ouer against Popeshead alley, nere the Royal Exchange.





## ¶ The Epistle to the Reader.

 Vrteous Reader, I haue undertaken in this short discourse, to vtter vnto thee ye most part of such things as I saw and paffed in the time of my troublesome trauell and flauish life susteyned in the Gallies, and wars of the great Turke.

And this I do protest, that in this booke there is nothing mentioned or expressed, but that which is of truth: and what mine own Eies haue perfectly seene. Some foolish persons perhaps will cavel and say, that thiese are but Lies and fables: and that it conteyneth nothing else: but to thosse I aunswere, that whatsoeuer is herein mentioned, he whosoeuer he be, that shall soe finde faulte, and doubt of the trueth hereof, let him but make inquirie of the best and greatest trauellers and Merchants about all this land: and they doubtles will resolute them that it is true which is here expressed: with a great deale more, which now I cannot call to remembrance, for that my memory saileth me, by meanes of my great and greeuous troubles. From my lodging at Black-wall, this nineteenth of May. 1590.

Your Loving cuntryman,  
EDVVARD WEBBE.



TO THE MOST MIGHTY, MY GRATIOVS  
AND RENOWNED SOVERAIGNE, ELIZA-  
BETH by the grace of God Queene of England,  
Fraunce and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.

YOVR HIGHNESSE MOST HVMBLE SVBIECT,  
Edward VVeble, hartely prayeth for the continuance  
of your Maiesties health and prosperous raigne to  
the worldes ende.

**C**onsidering (most Gracious and dread Soue-  
raigne) the wonderful prouidence of Al-  
mighty god shewed towardes your High-  
nesse since the time of your most happie  
and prosperous raigne, aswell in the pre-  
seruacion of your Maiesties person from the handes of  
your highnesse enemies, as alfo, in defending this small  
Angle or Realme of Englande from the force of for-  
raine foes: and the continuall blesfings of peace and  
plentie, with which euer since, he hath in bountifull  
fort maintained it: I coulde not therefore but (ac-  
cording to mydutie) renderhumble thankes to almighty  
god for the fame when to my great comfort, euen in  
the midst of my thralldome in Turkie, I did heare it  
most truely reported by a Christiane Captiue, and  
your Highnesse Clemencie, byhim highlly commended.  
The Report of whose fame truly discribed, aswell in  
the administration of iustice, and supporting of Christian  
religion, as alfo in relieving and succouring the poore

distressed members of this lande, gaue me iust cause to pray hartely for my deliuerie, and to long inwardly, vntill I came to see your highnesse (my dread Soueraigne) and this my Natue Cuntrey: and now hauing obteyned my long expected wish, I doe in all humblenesse prostrate my selfe, and this plaine discourse of my trauels to your most excellent Maiestie: wherein may be seene, that if in Turkie I would haue denied my Christ, or in my trauel [I] woulde haue forsaken my Prince to haue serued for Spaine, thereby to haue become a traytour to your Maiestie and my native Cuntrey, I needed not to haue liued in want, but in great prosperitie: but for as much as almighty God hath now set me free from thraldome, and deliuered me from many daungers, and sent me into Englande, my desire is that I may be employed in such seruice and affaires, as may be pleasing to God, and found profitable to my prince and cuntry. And thus trusting your Highnesse will accept in good worth this true discourse (though rudely penned) I most humbly take my leaue, most hartely praying to the almighty god, for the prosperous health and continual Raigne of your most excellent Maiestie

Your Highnesses humble subiect,

Ed. Web.





¶ Verfes Written vpon the Alphabet of  
the Queenes Maiesties name.

E ternall God, who guideth still your grace,  
L engthen your life, in health and happie days.  
I nspire your subiects heartes in euery place:  
Z ealous in Loue, and free from secreit hate,  
A nd shorten life in those that breedē debate.  
B eholde her Lorde, who is our strength and stay  
E uen he it is, by whom we holde our owne:  
T urne not thy face from her in any way,  
H ew downe her foes, and let them all be knowne.

R Enowned Queene, your highnesse subiectes joy,  
E uen for to feé the fall of all your foes:  
G od of his mercy shielde you from annoy  
I ntending treasons, still for to disclose:  
N one of vs all, but wil most duely pray,  
A lmighty God preferue you night and day.

FINIS.



## Ed. Webbe his trauailes.

**E**DWARD WEB an englishman, borne at S. Katherins, neere ye Tower of London, was the sonne of one Richard Web master gunner of England: my father hauing some natural affection to me, when I was but xij yeares olde, did preser me to the seruice of Captaine Jenkenson, at such time as he was sent Ambasfador into Russia, with whom I went by Sea, and vpon him I was daylie attendant: in which my iourney, I was conuersant among ye people of that Cuntry, which were apparelled like the Turkes and Tartarians, with surde Caps and long garments down to their shins: much like to Carbines or Horsemen readie to ye warre.

There I made my abode soime space in the head Cittie of Russia called Musko, in which their building is all of Firre, except the Emperors Court, which is of lime and stome. They execute very sharpe lawes among themselues, and are a kinde of Tyranous People as appeareth by their customs, of which, among many other, these I specially noted: (*viz.*) that if any man be indebted one to another and doth not make painment at his day and time appointed: the officers may enter vpon the debtors, and forceably breake down their houses, and imprison them in grieuous fort where iudgment shal prefently passe against him, which is with a mallet of wood he shall haue so many blowes on the shinnes or on the fore-heade, as the Judge shall awarde: and this punishment shall be inflicted fundry daies upon him. The Turks do also vse to beate Debtors with a Mallet, but not in that fort, for in Turkie they are beaten for debt vpon the soles of their feet with a Cane, or else a Cudgell, if

that painment be not made by a day. I also noted that if any Nobleman do offend ye Emperor of Ruffia, the faide Nobleman is taken and imprifonné with al his Children and kinffolkes, and the first great frost that commeth, (for the Cuntry is wonderfully cold and subiect to much frost) there is a great hole made in the Ise ouer some great Riuers, and then the partie principal is put in, and after him his wife, his Children, and all other his kins-folkes ; and so leauue none of his posteritie to posseſſe his Lands or goodes, but the fame are bestowed vpon others, at the Emperors pleasure.

There I staide 3 yeeres attendant on my maister, in which time the Crime-Tartarians [otherwise named the new Christians] made warre vpon the said Cittie of *Musko*,<sup>2</sup> which foone after was betrayed, and speadely burned, the People in great abundance massacred, and the Tartarian Souldiers had wondersfull greate and rich spoyles, in the fame : there was I at that time with viij. other Englishmen taken prisoners, and for flaues were conueied to *Caffa*, where the king of the Tartarians abideth and keepeth a statly Court : being conueyed thither, we were set to wipe the feet of the kings horfes, and to become ordinarie flaues in the said Court, to fetch water, cleave wood, and to do ſuch other drudgery. There were we beaten three times a weeke with a horſe tayle : and thus in this ſort and miserable feruitude wee stayed there fiue yeeres, then were we ransomed from thence by our friendes, where we paide euery man 300. crownes, which is viij. s. vj d. a peece of English money. Among that people called ye Tartarians, I noted eſpecially this one thing, that their Children being new borne, do neuer open their eyes vntill they be ix. dayes and ix. nights olde. Thus being ransomed as is aforesaid, I returned home into England, where hauing ſtaied ſome ſmal time, I went againe into Ruffia in the hart of master Kings of Ratcliffe with thirty ſaile of ſhips more in our company, at

which time her Maiesties shippe called the Wiloughby was our Admirall, and the Harry appertayning to the company of the Marchants, was our Vice-admirall, Maister William Burrow then being our Captaine and maister: in which our voyage we met with v. Rovers or men of war,<sup>1</sup> whom we fet vpon, and burnt their Admirall, and brought those ships into Narr, and there the men ware maffacred in this manner by the Russians: first great stakes drien into the grounde, and they fpitted vpon Powles, as a man wouldeput a Pig vpon a Spitte, and fo viij. score were handled in that manner in very Tyranous fort. We vnladed our bourthen at *Narre*, and tooke in our lading for our commodities, but the ship wherein I was (which is called the Hart) hauing fayled but xij. miles from thence, stroke vpon a Rocke, whereby the ship and goodes were lost, the residue of the fleet had no harme, and all the men faued their liues by taking themselues into the Boat of the same ship.

By meanes of which ship so cast away, I lost all that I had, and then came againe into England, and gathered a new stocke, and in the Henrie of London I went to *Levanra* alias *Legorne*. This ship called the Henrie had bin folde before to Doctor Hector, and other Italian Marchants, which was vnowne vnto vs, so that at our comming to *Legorne* the ship was feized on by the factors of those that were the owners thereof, and by them laden with merchantdize to *Alexandria*, in which voyage my selfe was Master gunner.

But heere fortune began to lowre on me againe, and turne her wheele in such fort against me, as I that was foone after brought to liue in greater flauerie than euer I did before, for we hauing saflie arived at *Alexandria*, dischardged our burthen: and fraughted our ship with great store of that Cuntry commodities, and returning back to *Legorne*, fuddainly in the way, we met with Fiftie saile of the Turkes Gallies: with which Gallies, we fought two dayes and two nights, and made great slaughter amongst their men, we being in all but three score men very

weake for such a multytude, and hauing lost 50. of 60. men, faintnes constrainyd vs for to yeeld vnto them, by reaefon we wanted Winde to help our felus withall, and the Calme was so great a helpe vnto them, as there was no way for vs to efcape. Thus did the Turkes take the ship and goodes, and in the same found x of vs liuing whom they tooke Prisoners and presently stripped vs naked, and gaue vs 100 blowes a peece, for presuming to fight against them.

Then were we sent to *Constantinople*, and then committed to the Gallies, where we continued the space of vij yeeres: the manner of our vfang, there, was thus.

First we were shauen head and face, and then a shirt of Cotten and Breeches of the same put vpon vs, and our Legs and Feete left naked, and by one of the feet is each flauie chayned with a great chaine to the Gallie, and our handes fastned with a payre of manacles. The foode which I and others did eat, was very blacke, far worse then Horse-bread, and our drinke was stinkingwater, (vnleffe it be when we come to the places where we tooke in fresh water] at which time we supposid our diet to be very daintie.

Thus as I faide before, I remained vj. yeeres in this miferable state, wonderfully beaten and misfed euery day: there haue I seene some of my fellowes when they haue bin so weake as they could not row by reaefon of sicknes and faintnes, where ye Turkes woulde lay vpon them as vpon Horses, and beat them in such fort, as oft times they dyed, and then threw them into the Sea.

Thus seeing my selfe still to continue in this miferable state, I was constrained for want of victualles, to discouer my selfe and to shew them that I had good skill in Gunners art, which I thought would haue bin greatly wel esteemed at the Turkes handes: but then for the same, I was more narrowly looked vnto, yet somewhat better esteemed of, then I was before. Not long after, the Turke made warres against the Persians, and gathered vij. hundred thousand men togither, and these were conducted by his chief Bassaes into Persia:

At which time (for that I had skil in Artillery) I was chofen foorth of the Gallies, to go with the Armie into the lande of Persia, and there to do the Turke seruice in the fielde, with whom I trauailed on foote, but in our going thither, their dyed of our Armie, by meanes of great ficknes, diet, and want of Victuals, about the number of 300. thousand so that when wee came into persia, we were foure [hundred] thousand strong in the fielde, there wee rested vs one moneth, by which time, we (hauing hartened our selues) gaue a fierce assault against the Persians, where the Turks fide got the worst, and lost 60 thousand men. Then the generall ouer the Turkes Armie, whose name was Sannon Basha, fent vs so many souldiers more as made vs 500 thousand strong, there we staide for a long time, making warres against the Persians, and the greate Cittie of Damasco, where the Turke little preuayled: for if that the Turke were as politick as he is strong of power, the Persians were not able to resist him.

Thus leauing the Turkes Armie in Persia, we came through Damasco to our Cittie called the great *Caer*. which Cittie is three score miles in compasse, and is the greatest Cittie in the world, it standeth vpon the riuier of Nilo, and in the said Cittie, there is 12 thousand Churches, which they tearme Mufcots.

This Cittie at all times keepeth xl. thoufand men continually in Souldiers pay, and are ready at one houres warning to serue under the Turke: there we staide to see the cutting or parting of the Riuier of Nilo, which is done once euery yeere, vpon the 25 of August. This Cittie standeth in the land of Egipt, and is vnder the gouernment of the great Turke. And there is a king ouer the saide Cittie, who is called the king of the great Caer, and ye Wize Roy or Lieftenant to the great Turke, and he is then prefent at the cutting or parting of this river of Nilo: at which time there is a great triumph, and euery Towne and Cuntry round about to the value of a thousand mile, send guifts and presents to the king of the great Caer, in consideration

of the water which commeth to them from that Riuers of Nilo by meanes of the cutting of it, which is but once euery yeere.

It is therefore to be vnderstoold, that in ye Land of Egipt it rayneth not at all, and all the grounde throughout the lande of Egipt is continually watred by the water which vpon ye 25 day of August is turned into the cuntries round about, by means of ye wonderfull growing and fwelling of the water vpright without any stay at all, on the one fide thereof, it is to ye height of a huge mountaine, which beginneth to increase the 15. day of August, and by the 25. of the same moneth it is at the highest, on which day it is cut by ye deuiding of 2 pillars in a straunge fort, neere to the cittie of ye great *Caer*. and so turned as off from a great mountaine into the lande of Egipt: by meares whereof, the Turke holdes all the land of Egipt in subiection to him felse, and might if he would difmisse them cleane from hauing any water at all.

From thence I went with the Turkes power, and vnder his conduction to the lande of Iewry, and from thence to the city of Ierufalem, where part of the olde Temple is yet standing, and many Monuments of great antiquitie, as herein after shall be shewed.

In the Land of *Siria*, there is a riuer that no Iew can catch any fish in it at all, and yet in the same riuer there is great store of fish like vnto Samon trouts: But let a Christian or a Turke come thither and fish for them, and eyther of them shall catch them in great abundance, if they do but put their hande into the water with a little bread, and an hundred will be about his hand.

Thus hauing seene a number of rare and most wonderful things, we went to the city of *Agowra*, which is ye head and chief city in all ye East Indies, there wee gaue Battell against ye Christians yat keep ye said city, which are Portugals, for that ye Town appertaineth to ye king of Portugal. In this place wee gaue Battle and lost xx thousand of ye Turks men, and yet

could not obtain it: Neuertheles ye great Turks Lief-tenant or Generall with his power toke a place called *Arnows*, where they had great store of Treafure and Sowes of Silver.

Thus being chiefe maister Gunner in these Turkish warres, I was sent for againe by commandement of ye Turk to Dafmasco, where I staied all that winter with xx thousand men. And from thence made prouision to make wars against the land of Prester Iohn, who is by profeffion a Christian. In this land of Prester Iohn, when it doth raine, it continueth at the leaft one whole moneth. And in ye graund Caer, there is a plague once in euery vij yeeres, which commeth with fuch a fiercenes, that the moft part of all the people there do die of the faid plague: and people in great numbers lose their Eie fight with the vapours and great heat which commeth from the ground.

I remember one battaile, which ye Admirall of the great Turke named Ally Basha made with three-score Gallies, and feazed vpon a towne where the faid Ally Basha was borne himfelfe, named Trybusas, which is in ye confines of Calabria and vnder ye gouernment of the king of Spaine, at which towne he landed his Armie an houre before day, thinking to haue taken it by treason: and there vpon in great fury fcaled the wals with lathers: but the watch bewraied vs, and on a fodaine, cried Arme, Arme, which was foone done: for euery man tooke him to his tooles and weapons of defence.

But it is worthy of memorie, to fee how the women of ye towne did plie themfelues with their weapons, making a great maffacre vpon our men, and murthered 500 of them in fuch speedie and furious fort as is wonderfull: we needed not to haue feared their men at all, had not ye women bin our great ouerthrow, at which time I my felfe was maister Gunner of the Admirals Gally, yet chainde greeuously, and beaten naked with a Turkish fword flatling, for not shooting where they would haue me, and where I could not fhoot. It is

but a few yeares since, that in the cittie of Constantinople, there happned a great plague, where there dyed in six monethes space, seuen hundred thousand. perfons, at which time master Harbarn Ambaffadour for the Turkie company was there, and lost sundry of his seruants.

From Damasco we went into the land of prester John who is a Christian, and is called *Christien de Sentour*: that is, the Christian of the Gerdell:<sup>3</sup> against this prester Iohn, I went with the Turks power, and was then their maister Gunner in the field, ye number of Turkish Souldiers sent thither, was fwe hundred thousand men who went thither by land, and pitched themselues in battaile rayat Saran, neere to the place wher the son of prester Iohn keepeth his Court. There Prester Iohn with his power, fwe of ye Turks the number of 60. thousand. onely by policie of drawe Bridges to let foorth water, made as fecrete fleshes for that purpose, in which water so many Turks perished. The next day following, the Turkes power did incompaffe Prester Iohns sonne and tooke him prifoner, and fent him for a prefent to ye great Turks Court then being at Constantinople, but foone after, prester Iohn himselfe made an agreement betweene the greate Turke and his sonne, that the one shoulde not demaund tribute of the other, and so his sonne was released and fent home againe.

This Prester Iohn of whom I spake before, is a King of great power, and keepeth a very bountifull Court, after the manner of that Cuntry, and hath euery day to serue him at his Table, sixty kinges, wearing leaden Crownes on their heads, and thofe serue in the meat vnto Prester Iohns Table: and continually the first dish of meat fet vpon his Table, is a dead mans scull cleane picked and laide in black Earth: putting him in minde that he is but Earth, and that he must die, and shal become Earth againe.

These 60 Kings are all his Wize Royes in feuerall places, and they haue their Deputies to fyupply their Roomes, and thofe kings liue continually in Prester

Iohns Courte, and go no furder then they may be stll attendant vpon him, without leaue of their Emperour Prester Iohn.

In the Court of Prester Iohn, there is a wilde man, and an other in the high street at Constantinople, whose allowance is euery day a quarter of Raw Mutton: and when any man dyeth for some notorious offence, then are they allowed euery day a quarter of mans flesh.

These wilde men are chained fast to a post euery day, the one in Prester Iohns Court, and the other in the high street of Constantinople, each of them hauing a Mantel cast about their shoulders, and all ouer their bodies they haue wonderfull long haire, they are Chained fast by the neck, and will speedily deuoure any man that commeth in their reach.

There is also a Beast in the Court of Prester Iohn, called Arians, hauing 4 heades, they are in shape like a wilde Cat, and are of the height of a great mastie Dog.

In this Court likewise, there is Fowles caled Pharses foules whose feathers are very beautifull to be worne, these fowles are as big as a Turkie, their flesh is very sweet, and their feathers of all manner of Collours.

There is Swannes in that place, which are as lardge againe as the Swannes of Englande are, and their Feathers are as blew as any blew cloath.

I haue seen in a place like a Park adioyning vnto prester Iohns Court, three score and feuen-teene, Vnicornes and Eliphants all aliue at one time, and they were so tame that I haue played with them as one would play with young Lambes.

When Prester Iohn is serued at his table, there is no salt at all set one in any salt sellar as in other places, but a loafe of Bread is cut crosse, and then two kniues are layde a crosse vpon the loafe, and some salt put vpon the blades of the kniues and no more.

Being thus in the land of prester Iohn, I travelled within Eightene degrees of ye Sun, euery degree being in distance three score miles.

I was at the Red Sea, at the place where *Moyses* made passage with his wande for the Children of Israell, where I saw a Ship called the *graund Maria*, she drawes but xj foot water, and against this ship lx Gallies and ships haue fought at one time, and cannot conquer her: and this is vnder the gouernment of ye great Turke.

I haue beene in the Courts of the three great Patriarkes, the first whereof is kept at Ierusalem, the second at the Gran Caer, and the third at Constantinople: these haue their Courts in very stately fort, and attended on by none but Priests.

When I was at Ierusalem, I saw the Sepulchre wherein (it is faide) Christ was buried: it is as it were in a Vault, and hath vij Dores, and vij Roes of Marble steppes or stayres to go downe into the same, and then at the bottom of ye stayres, there is a faire Chappel, with an Altar and a Lamp burning continually day and night before it, and the Graue is full of white Earth, as white as Chalke, and a Toombe of ye famie Earth made, and laide vpon Stone, wheron are fundry Letters written, but I could not read them.

The great Turk hath some profit comming by ye keeping thereof, and hath therefore builded at his owne charges an Hospital within Ierusalem, which his Genezaries doe keepe: and this Hosptial is to receiue all Pilgrims and trauellers to lodge in whensoeuer they come. And all that come to see the sepulchre doe pay ten Crownes a-pece, whereof the Turke hath but one, and the rest goes to the Church, and so they may stay there as long as they list to lodge in that new Hosptial, and haue lodging, bread, victuals and water so long as they will remaine there, but no wine: such as come thither for Pilgrims haue no beds at all, but lie vpon the ground on Turkey Carpets, and before the sepulcher of Christ there is masse said euerie day, and none may say the masse there, but a man that is a pure virgin: there was one that dyed while I was there, that daily

said and fung masse before the sepulcher, and he was an hundred and thirtie yeares of age before his death, and now another is in his Roome, but whether ye old man that dead is, or this which is now in the place to sing and say the said Masse, were pure Virgins I know not, but sure I dare not fweare for them, because they bee men, and flesh and bloud as other are.

After that I had thus long trauelled and spent my time in the warres and affaires of the great Turke, I was returned againe to Constantinople, where at my ariuall, a pennie loafe of Breade (of English starling money) was worth a crowne of gold: such was the scarfitie, Sicknes, Misery and Dearth then vpon ye said Cittie, and happie was he that so could get Breade to eate. Neuertheleffe, because I was a Christian, and for that ye Turke had no cause presently to vse me in my office of gunnership, I was there imprisoned, where I found two thousand. Christians pind vp in ston wals lockt fast in yron chaines, grieuously pinched, with extreme penury, and such as wished death rather then in soch misery to liue: amongst these was I placed, and tooke part with them accordingly: greeuing at my hard hap that the warres had not ended me before I came thether.

Thus I remained there with the rest, garded and daily watched, that we could stir no manner of way, there wee were suffered to worke vpon any manner of trade or occupation wherein we were any way expert: and what we did or made, we fold to the Turkes, and they gaue vs money for the same: and thus were we suffered to worke vntill it were time to goe and gather Snowe, which is there vsed yearly of Custome to be gathered: for the Turke hath great summes of mony paide him for ye said snow, which is gathered and folde to his subiects for a peny the pound, which pound, is two pound and a halfe English: and this snow they use only to coole their drinke in the summer season. And no man may sell any snowe vntill the Turke hath folde all his.

Thus liuing in this flauish life as is aforesaid, diuers of vs complotted and hammered into our heads how we might procure our releasement: wherevpon I attempted with the consent of 5 hundred Christians, fellow flaues with my selfe, to breake a wall of fourteene foote broad, made of earth, lyme, and sand, which we greatly moistened with strong Vinegar, so that the wall being made moist therewith through the help of a spike of yron, ffe hundred of us had almost escaped out of prison: but looke what shall be, shal be, and what God will haue, shal come to paffe and no more, as appeareth by vs, for we hauing made meanes for our speedie flight, as we were iffuing foorth, we were bewrayed by ye barking of a dog, which caused the Turkes to arife, and they taking vs with the maner stopped vs from flying away, and gaue vs in recompence of our paines taking herein, feauen hundred blowes a peece vpon the naked skinne, *viz.* three hundred on the belly, and foure hundred on ye back.

Thus lying still Prifoner in the Turkes dungeons, it pleased God to send thether for the releafemente of me and others, a worthy gentleman of this land, named Maister Harborne, Ambaffadour thether for the company of Marchants, who to the great honour of England did behaue himselfe wonderfull wisely, and was a speciall meanes for the releasement of me and sundrie other English captiues, who were set at libertie foone after the death of the great Basha: thus by the meanes of the said Maister Harborne I was set free from Thralldome, and by him sent into England where I arriued on the first of May. 1589.

Whilst I was remaining prisoner in Turkey, and kept in such flauish manner as is Rehearsed the great Turke had his sonne circumcised, at which time there was great tryumphes and free liberty proclaimed for a hundred daies space, that any Nobleman, gentleman, traueler, Christian or other, might freely (without being molested) come and see the tryumphes theravesed, which were woonderfull: I my selfe was there constrained to

make a cunning peece of fire work framed in form like to ye Arke of Noy, beeing 24 yarde high, and eight yarde broad, wherein was placed 40 men drawen on 6 wheeles, yet no man seene, but seemed to goe alone, as though it were onely drawen by two Fiery Dragons, in which shew or Arke there was thirteene thoufand feuerall peeces of fire worke.

At the same time that I was Releafeed, there were set at liberty about xx English men, whereof I was one of the last: some of them are at this present in England. My selfe and others were released by meanes of her Maiesties fauorable Letters, sent to ye great Turke, brought by the foresayd Maister Harborne: some by the Raunsome money gathered at fundry times by the Marchants in the Cittie of London, for ye Godly purpoe: of which, some of their names that were released were these. Hamand Pan, Iohn Beer, Iohn Band, Andrew Pullins, Edward Buggins and others.

Here may the bountiful Citizens of London see (as in a glasse) the fruites of their liberalitie and charitable deuotion giuen at feuerall times in the yeare towards the releasement of poore captiues, such as are constrained to abide most vilde and grieuous tortures, especially the torture and torment of consciens which troubled me and all true Christians to ye very soule: for the Turk by al meanes possible would still perswade me and other my fellow Christians while I was there the time of 13 yeares, to forfake Christ to deny him, and to beleue in their God Mahomet: which if I would haue done, I might haue had wonderfull preferment of the Turke, and haue liued in as great felicitie as any Lord in that countrey: but I vtterly denied their request, though by them greeuously beaten naked for my labour, and reviled in most detestable forte, calling me dogge, diuell, helhound, and such like names: but I giue God thankes he gaue me strength to abide with patience these crosses.

And though I were but a fimple man voide of learning, yet stil I had in remembraunce that Christ

dyed for me, as appeareth by the holy Scriptures, and that Christ therein faith: *He that denyeth me before men I will deny him before my father which is in heauen:* and againe he saith: *Whofoeuer beleeueth on me shall be faued, and haue life euerlasting.* This comfort made me resolute, that I would rather fuffer all the torments of death in the worlde, then to deny my Sauiour and Redeemer Christ Iesus.

After my free libertie granted in Turkey, I intending my iourney towardes England, came by land to Venice, where I met at Padua thirtie Englishmen students, I met also with an Englishman, who liued in the state of a Frier, he brought me before the high Bishop, where I was accused for an hereticke, and he brought me in two fals witnessses to be sworn against me (hauing before known me in Turkey) neuerthelesse I disproued his witneses, and they were found forsworne men, then was I set at libertie, and constrained to giue 15 Crownes towardes the finishing our Ladies shrine at Padua: and my accuser and his witnessses punished.

From thence I came to ye Duke of Ferrara, where I was wel entertained and liberally rewarded with a horse and fife and twentie Crownes for the sake of the Queenes Maiestie of England.

From thence with my Pasport, I came to Bolony in Italy, where I met with a popish Bishop being an Englishman which shewed me great friendship, he is called Doctor Poole: from thence to Florence, there I met with an English gentleman named maister Iohn Stanley. And from thence I went to Rome, there I was nineteene daies in trouble with the Pope, and the English Cardinall Doctor Allen, a notable Arch-papist, where I was often examined, but finding nothing by me, they let me passe, and vnderstanding that I had bene a captiue long time in Turkey, gaue me xxv. crownes. And before I went out of Rome, I was againe taken by ye English Colledge, and put there into the holy house 3 daies, with a fooles coate

on my backe, halfe blew, halfe yellowe, and a cockefcombe with three bels on my head, from whence I was holpen by meanes of an Englishman whom I found there, and prefented my petition and cause to the Pope: who againe set me at libertie. From thence I departed to Naples, where I met with a Genowis, who apprehended me and brought me there before ye vice-Roy, saying I was a man of great knowledge and an English spie.

Then I was committed to a darke Dungeon xv daies, which time they secrely made enquiry where I had liue before, what my wordes and behauour had beene while I was there, but they coulde finde nothing by me.

Thrice had I ye strappado, hoisted vp backward with my hands bound behinde me, which strooke all the ioynts in my armes out of joynt, and then constrained to drinke falte water and quicklime, and then fine Lawne or Callico thrust downe my throate and pluckt vp againe ready to pluck my hart out of my belly, al to make me to confesse that I was an English spie. After this, there were foure bard horfes prepared to quarter me, and I was still threatened to die except I would confesse some thing to my harme.

Thus feauen moneths I endured in this miserie, and yet they coulde finde no caufe against me, then I wrote to the Vice-Roy to do me iustice, and he did write to ye K[ing] of Spain to know what should be done with me: whereupon the king of Spaine wrote that I should be employed in a Gunners roome: then was I entertained, and had 35 crownes a moneth, and had ye Kinges pattent fealed for the same, and then vnderstanding that three ships were comming towardes England I departed and fled from thence with them to my natvie Cuntry, in ye Grace of London by the helpe of one Nicholas Nottingham maister thereof. Thus came I into England with great joy and hearts delight, both to my selfe and all my acquaintance.

The report in Roome, Naples, and all ouer Italy, in my trauell which was at such time as the Spaniards came to inuade England, after I had beene released of my imprisonment, as I passed through the streetes, the people of that parts asked me how I durst acknowledge my selfe to be an Englishman, and therevpon to daunt me, did say, that England was taken by the Spaniards, and the Queene of England (whome God long preferue) was taken prisoner, and was comming towards Rome to doe pennance: and that her highnes was brought thither, through desarts, moist, hilly and soule places: and where plaine ground was, holes and hollow trenches were digged in the way of her Majesties passage, to ye intent that she might haue gone vp to the mid leg in oes or mire: with these speeches they did check me, and I said, yat I trusted God doubtles would defend my Prince better, then to deliuere her into the hands of her enemies, wherfore they did greatly reuile me.

Many things I haue omitted to speake of, which I haue feen and noted in the time of my troublesome trauel. One thing did greatly comfort me which I saw long since in Sicilia, in the citie of Palermo, a thing worthy of memorie, where the right honorable the Earle of Oxenford a famous man for Chiualrie at what time he trauelled into forraine Countries, being then personally present, made there a challeng against al manner of persons whatsoeuer, and at all maner of weapons, as Turniments, Barriors with horse and armour, to fight a combat with any whatsoeuer. In the defence of his Prince and countrey: for which he was verie highly commended, and yet no man durst be fo hardy to encounter with him, so that all Italy ouer, he is acknowledged the onely Chiuallier and Noble man of England. This title they giue vnto him as worthily deserued.

Moreouer, in the land of Egipt neere to the Riuver of Nilo, within sixe miles of the Gran Caer. There are seauen Mountaines builded on the out side, like

vnto ye point of a Diamond, which Mountaines were builded in King *Pharoes* time for to keepe Corne in, and they are Mountaines of great strength.

It is also faide, that they were builded about that time when *Ioseph* did lade home his Brethrens Asses with Corne, in the time of the great dearth mentioned in the Scripture: At which time, all their Corne lay in thosse mountaines.

In the Riuer of Nilo, there is long Fishes that are of tenne or twelue foote long, which fwimmeth neere the shore, they are called the fishes of King *Pharao*, they are like vnto a Dolphin

These Fishes are fo subtile, that swimming neere the shore side, they will pull men or women fodeinly into the Riuer and deouore them.

In the Citie of the gran Caer, the houses are of a very olde building, all of Lime and stone, and in most of the houses the roofes are couered with fine gold, in a very workemanly fort.

In Egipt there is fmall store of water, becaufe it neuer raineth in that Country, fo that their water is very dangerous to drinke. They haue no springs at all in that country, and yet there falleth such a dew euery night, as doth refresh and keeps their hearbes and plantes in due fort, and makes them spring very fruitfully

The Citie of Damasco is very fruitfull and greatly replenished with al manner of fruities whatfoeuer, as *Pombranades*, *Orenges*, *Limons*, *Apples*, *Peares*, *Plumbes*, *Grapes*, and all other like fruities.

The Turkes are a people yat at some time they will attempt to doe wonderfull things as going vpon Ropes, and thrusting their swordes in their naked flesh, and stricke their sworde in their flesh like vnto a Scabbard: and many other things of great daunger.

In Turkie no man may strike the graunde Cady, that is their chiefest Iudg, if any man do strike him, immediatly he loseth his Right Arme for his offence, without Redemption.

At my comming ouer into Englande from Rome, I was faine to steal away, beeing then in yeerely see to the King of Spaine, to be one of his chiefe Gunners.

And if the Ship where in I came ouer, had bin taken, both they and I my selfe had dyed for that offence.

The old Cittie of Ierusalem is a very delicat place, and nothing there to be seene but a little of the old walles which is yet Remayning: and all the rest is Grasse, Mosse and weedes much like to a peece of Rank or moist grounde. They haue no Tillage at all in that partes.

The City of *Ierusalem* where the Temple now standeth is almost a mile from the olde walles of Ierusalem: it is of a maruellous olde building, and there standeth the old Relicks preserued and kept as Monuments of great treasure.

Now to Returne where I left off, and declare vnto you in what sort I imploide my selfe since my first entring into englande: heere I visited my friendes from May till November, and then I departed into Fraunce, where I had good entertainment at the Hands of the Renowned King and Captaine of this age, Henry of Burbon, King of Fraunce and Navarre, who Receiued me into Pay, and appointed me for his chiefe M[aister] Gunner in the field.

So that vpon Ash-wednsday last, at his most Renowned Battle fought vpon the plaine of Saint Andrew neere vnto *Drewx*: I was in seruice vnder him, where I gaue 3 charges vpon the Enemie, and they in stede thereof, gaue vs fisteene shot, and yet God be thanked peruailed not against vs.

There were wee constrained to make Bulwarkes of the dead bodies of our Enemies and of the Carcasses of dead Horses: where for my paines taking that day, the king greatlye commended me, and honorably Rewarded me.

But shortly after my first arivall in Fraunce, I was hated by some lewde Gunners who envying that I

should haue the Title to be Master Gunner in Fraunce, practised against me, and gaue me poyson in drinke that night : which thing when the King vnderstoode, he gaue order to the gouernor of Deepe, that his Phisition should presently see vnto me, who gaue me speadely Unicorns horne to drinke, and there by God and the Kings great goodnesse, I was againe restored to my former health.

Thus haue you hearde the manner of my cruell and most grieuous trauaile, my miserie, flaverie, and crueltie which I haue suffred therein, the manner of some olde Ornamentes and the customes of such as dwell in forraine nations far off, and in places where our Saviour and his Apostles were resident, and preached vpon the Earth : my seruice done vnder ye great Turke, of *Perfia*, *Tartarica*, *Grecia*, and other places of seruice, I haue omitted therein my seruice done at the taking of Tunnis, and what I did in the Royle vnder Duke Iohn of Austria : and many other thinges which I coulde heere discouer vnto you : onely let this suffice, that I shall be glad, and do daylie desire that I may be employed in some such seruice as may be profitable to my Prince and Cuntry.

## FENES.



I. CAPTURE OF DANISH FREEBOOTERS, BY THE ENGLISH RUSSIA FLEET, 10 JULY 1570. — In a letter to the Emperor of Russia, dated *Narue*, 15 July 1570, by Christopher Hodsdon and Captain William Burrough, there is a full description of the capture of these Danish pirates.

Most mightie Emperour, &c. Whereas Sir *William Garrard* and his fellowship the company of English merchants, this last Winter sent hither to the *Narue* three ships laden with merchandise, which was left here, and with it *Christopher Hodsdon* one of the fayd fellowship, and their chiefe doer in this place, who when hee came first hither, and vntill fuch time as hee had dispatched those ships from hence, was in hope of goods to lade twelue or thirteene failes of good ships, against this shipping, wherefore he wrote vnto the fayd Sir *William Garrard* and his companie to fend hither this spring the fayd number of thirteene ships. And because that in their comming hither wee found the Freebooters on the sea, and supposing this ycere that they would be very strong, he therefore gaue the said Sir *William* and his Companie aduise to furnish the fayd number of ships so strongly, as they should bee able to withstand the force of the Freebooters: whereupon they haue according to his aduise sent this year thirteene good ships together well furnished with men and munition, and all other necessaries for the warres, of which 13. ships *William Burrough* one of the said fellowship is captaine generall, vnto whom there was giuen in charge, that if hee met with any the *Danske* Freebooters, or whatsoeuer robbers and theeuers that are enimies to your highnesse, he should doe his best to apprehend and take them. It so hapned that the tenth day of this moneth, the fayd *William* with his fleete, met with sixe ships of the Freebooters neare vnto an Island called *Tuttee*, which is about 50. verfts from *Narue*, vnto which Freebooters he with his fleet gaue chase, and tooke of them the Admirall, wherein were left but three men, the rest were fled to shore in their boats amongst the woods vpon *Tuttee*, on which ship he set fire and burnt her. He also tooke soure more of those ships which are now here, and one ship escaped him: out of which soure ships some of the men fled in their boates and so escaped, others were flaine in fight, and some of them when they saw they could not escape, cast themselues willingly into the Sea and were drowned. So that in these fife ships were left but 83. men.

The fayd *Wil. Borough* when he came hither to *Narue*, finding here *Christopher Hodsdon* afornamed, both the said *Christopher* and *William* together, in the name of sir *William Garrard* and the rest of their whole companie and fellowship, did present vnto your highnesse of those Freebooters taken by our ships 82. men, which we deliuered here vnto *Knez Voinoda*, the 13. of this moneth. One man of those Freebooters we haue kept by vs, whose name is *Hounce Snarke* a captaine. And the cause why we haue done it is this: When we should haue deliuered him

with the rest of his felowes vnto the *Voiuodae* officers, there were of our Englishmen more then 50. which fell on their knees vnto vs, requesting that he might be referued in the ship, and caried back into England: and the cause why they so earnestly intreated for him, is, that some of those our Englishmen had bene taken with Freebooters, and by his meanes had their liues faued, with great sauour besides, which they found at his hands. Wherefore if it please your highnesse to permit it, we will cary him home with vs into England, wherein we request your maiesties sauour: notwithstanding what you command of him shalbe obserued. *Hakluyt.* i. 401. Ed. 1599.

2. THE BURNING OF MOSCOW BY THE TARTARS, 24 MAY 1571.  
—Two accounts are preserved in *Hakluyt* of this catastrophe.

(1) A letter of *Richard Vscoume* to *M. Henrie Lane*, touching the burning of the Citie of *Mosco* by the *Crimme Tartar*: written in *Rose Island* the 5. day of August 1571.

Master *Lane* I haue me commended unto you. The 27. of July I arriued here with the *Magdalene*, and the same day and houre did the *Swallow* and *Harry* arriue here also. At our comming I found master *Proctor* here, by whom wce understand very heauie newes. The *Mosco* is burnt euery sticke by the *Crimme* the 24. day of May last, and an innumerable number of people: and in the English house was smothered *Thomas Southam*, *Tofild*, *Wauerley*, *Greenes* wife and children, two children of *Rafe*, and more to the number of 25. persons were stifeled in oure Becre seller: and yet in the same seller was *Rafe*, his wife, *John Browne*, and *John Clarke* preferued, which was wonderfull. And there went into that seller master *Glouer* and master *Rotolcy* also: but because the heate was so great, they came soorth againe with much perill, so that a boy at their hecles was taken with the fire, yct they escaped blindfold into another seller, and there, as Gods will was, they were preferued. The Emperour fled out of the field, and many of his people were caried away by the *Crimme Tartar*: to wit, all the yong people, the old they would not meddle with, but let them alone, and so with exceeding much spoile and infinite prisoners, they returned home againe. What with the *Crimme* on the one side, and with his crueltie on the other, he hath but few people left. Commend me to mistresse *Lane* your wife, and to *M. Locke*, and to all our friends. Yours to command, *Richard Vscoume*. *Hakluyt.* i 402. Ed. 1599.

(2) Master Giles Fletcher. D.C.L. was sent by Queen Elizabeth. in 1588 as Ambassador to the then Emperor of Russia. While returning, he reduced his observations of the state and manners of that country 'into some order': and published them under the title *Of the Russie Common Wealth*. London 1591. [Reprinted in *Hakluyt*. i. 474—497. Ed. 1599] His account is as follows;

The greatest and mightiest of them [the Tartars] is the *Chrim Tartar*, (whom some call the *Great Cham*) that lieth South, and

Southeastward from *Russia*, and doth most annoy the Countrie by often inuasions, commonly once euery ycare, fometimes entring very farre within the inland parts. In the year 1571. he came as farre as the citie of *Mosko*, with an armie of 200000. men, without any battaile, or resistance at all, for that the *Russe* Emperour (then *Iuan Vasilowich*) leading foorth his armie to encounter with him, marched a wrong way : but as it was thought of very purpofe, as not daring to aduenture the fielde, by reafon that hee doubted his nobilitie, and chiefe Captaines, of a meaning to betray him to the *Tartar*.

The citie he tooke not, but fired the Suburbs, which by reafon of the buildinges (which is all of wood without any ſtone, brick, or lime, ſaue certein out roomes) kindled ſo quickly, and went on with fuch rage, as that it consumed the greatest part of the citie almost within the ſpace of foure houres, being of 30. miles or more of compaffe. Then might you haue feene a lamentable ſpectacle; beſides the huge and mighty flame of the citie all on light fire, the people burning in their houſes and ſtreates, but moſt of all of fuch as laboured to paſſe out of the gates fartheſt from the enemie, where meeting together in a mightie throng, and ſo preſſing euery man to preuent another, wedged themſelues fo tight within the gate, and ſtreates neare vnto it, as that three ranks walked one vpon the others head, the uppemost treading downe thoſe that were lower: ſo that there perished at that time (as was ſayd) by the fire and the preffe, the number of 80000. people, or more.

The *Chrim* thus hauing fired the Citie, and fedde his eyes with the ſight of it all on a light flame, returned with his armie, and ſent to the *Rusſe* Emperour a knife (as was ſayd) to ſtick himſelue withall: obbraiding this loſſe, and his deſperate caſe, as not daring either to meet his enimy in the fielde, nor to truſt his friends or ſubiects at home. Chap 19. 'The borderers of Russia.' fol. 66.

3. PRESTER OR PRESBYTER JOHN, was the name given by the Europeans of the middle ages to a dynaſty of ſuppoſed eaſtern potentates. The following account is the history of this legcnd: —About the beginning of the eleventh century, it began to be reported in Christendom that a certain king beyond Perſia and Armenia had been met by the ſpirit of a departed faint in a forreſt; that he had been overawed into becoming a true believer; and that he had ordered all his ſubiects, to the number of 200,000, to adopt the fame faith. As time paſſed by, the report feemed to receive corroboration. Envoyes pretending to come from the land in queſtion arrived at Rome. Additional rumoures, by what means nobody knew, found their way to the West. The manners and cuſtoms of this newly Christianized people were faid to retain many traces of the old patriarchal times. The chief was both priſt and king, and was known on that account by the name of Preſter or Presbyter John. His tribe liued a peaceful

pastoral life, following their flocks through the desert, feeding upon flesh and milk, and being so destitute of corn and wine that they were unable in the prescribed manner to observe the fast-days, or to partake of the eucharist. Nor was the exquisite primitive simplicity of his kingdom unadorned by substantial wealth and majesty. Unbounded treasures were at his command ; many neighbouring nations were his tributaries ; and he swayed supremely with a sceptre of emerald.

Such pleasing reports as these continued to be greedily swallowed by the superstitious in Europe, until investigations commenced to be made. It then began to appear doubtful whether this happy land were not a mere Utopia, and whether this admirable Prester John were not a mere creature of the popular fancy. Carpini, a Franciscan friar who was sent by Pope Innocent IV., in 1246, on an embassy to the Mongols, failed to discover the celebrated nation of Christians. Not long afterwards another Franciscan, William de Rubruquis, who penetrated into Asia as far as Karakorum, could find none but a few Nestorians, who had even heard of the great priest-king. Equally unsuccessful were the Portuguese explorers who reached India by the way of the Cape of Good Hope about the end of the fifteenth century. After fruitlessly seeking for the Prester in Asia, they were fain to suppose, on few or no grounds, that they had found him in Africa in the person of an Abyssinian prince. The result of all these explorations was, that investigators have ceased to inquire into the truth of the story of Prester John, and turned their attention to an explanation of its origin. The most plausible solution is that given by Mosheim in his *Church History*. He supposes that a certain Nestorian priest named John gained possession of a throne in Asiatic Tartary ; that he still retained the name of Presbyter after his accession ; and that the title of Prester John was inherited by his descendants along with the throne, until his dynasty was extirpated by the mighty Tartar emperor Gengiskan.—*Encyclopaedia Britannica*, xviii., 511. *Eighth Edition.*

Among the curious descriptions of this fabulous empire is a small work printed in French at Rouen in 1506, of which the title is simply PERRESTER IEHAN. While the imprint runs thus—*Cy finent la diuersité des hommes, des bestes et des oiseaux qui sont en la terre de prestre Iehan. Imprimees a Rouen Pour Richard rogerie demourant a morletz.*

It purports to be a letter from Prester John himself to the Emperor of Rome and the King of France, and is dated 'from our holy palace, in the year of our birth 506.' It is a tissue of marvel after marvel : so as to render it hardly credible that it was ever seriously believed in. A few sentences will show its character.

"Prester John by the grace of God all powerful king of all the Christians : to the Emperor of Rome and to the King of France, our friends, greeting. We wish you to know of our state and of government, that is to say, of our people and the different

kind of our animals. And because you say that our people do not agree in worshipping God as you do in your country, we wish you to know that we adore and believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit who are three persons in one deity and one God alone. And we certify and send to you by our letters sealed with our Seal concerning the state and manner of our land and of our people. And if you will come into our country, for the good that we have heard of you, we will make you lord after us, and will give you large lands and lordships.

Know then that we have the highest crown in all the world. Also gold, silver, and precious stones, and cities, castles, and towns. Know also that we have in our country forty-two kings, all powerful and good Christians. Know also that we support with our alms all the poor in our land whether native or foreign, for the love and honour of Jesus Christ. Know also that we have promised in good-faith to conquer the Sepulchre of our Lord Jesus Christ and also all the Land of Promise. . . . .

Also in our country are elephants [olifants]; and another kind of animal, very great, called dromedaries; and white horses, and white oxen, and also savage cattle with seven horns; bears and lions of different colours, that is to say, red, green, black, and white; and wild asses with little horns . . . And green horses, that go faster than any other animal in the world. Know also that we have griffons that will easily carry an ox or an horse into their nests for their little birds to eat.

Know also between us and the Saracens runs a river called Sydonis, which comes from the terrestrial paradise and is quite full of precious stones, that is to say, emeralds, saphirs, rubies, chalcedonies, carbuncles, topas; and several other kinds that I do not mention: and of each we know the name and virtue. Know also that in our land is an herb called parmanable; and whosoever carries it upon him, can enchant the Devil and ask him where he is going, and what he is doing on the Earth, and can make him tell; upon which account the Devil dares not be in our country." . . . . .



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10. [Dr. J. ARBUTHNOT.] Law [*i.e.* War] is a Bottomless Pit, exemplified in the Case of the Lord STRUTT [*the Kings of Spain*], JOHN BULL [*England*] the Clothier, NICHOLAS FROG [*Holland*] the Linendraper, and LEWIS BABOON [*LOUIS XIV. of Bourbon=France*]. In four parts. 1712.

This famous Political Satire on the War of the Spanish Succession was designed to prepare the English public for the Peace of Utrecht, signed on 11 April, 1713. In part I., on 28 February, 1712, first appeared in our Literature, the character of JOHN BULL, for an Englishman.

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*Areopagitica.* 1644.

(a) *AREOPAGITICA : A Speech of Mr. JOHN MILTON For the Liberty of Unlicenc'd Printing, To the Parliament of England.*

(b) A Decree of Starre-Chamber, concerning Printing, made the eleventh of July last past, 1637.

(c) An Order of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament for the Regulating of Printing, &c. 1643.

LORD MACAULAY. He attacked the licensing system in that sublime treatise which every statesman should wear as a sign upon his hand, and as frontlets between his eyes.—*Edinburgh Review*, p. 344, *August, 1825.*

H. HALLAM. Many passages in this famous tract are admirably eloquent; an intense love of liberty and truth flows through it; the majestic soul of MILTON breathes such high thoughts as had not been uttered before.—*Introduction to the Literature of Europe*, iii. 660. *Ed. 1839.*

W. H. PRESCOTT. The most splendid argument perhaps the world had then witnessed on behalf of intellectual liberty.—*History of FERDINAND and ISABELLA*, iii. 391. *Ed. 1845.*

## 2. HUGH LATIMER.

*Ex-Bishop of Worcester.**The Ploughers.* 1549.

*A notable Sermon of ye reuerende Father Master HUGHE LATIMER, whiche he preached in ye Shrouds at paules churche in London on the xviii daye of Januarie.*

SIR R. MORISON. Did there ever any one (I say not in England only, but among other nations) flourish since the time of the Apostles, who preached the gospel more sincerely, purely, and honestly, than HUGH LATIMER, Bishop of Worcester?—*Apomaxis Calumniarum . . quibus JOANNES COCLEUS &c.*, f. 78. *Ed. 1537.*

It was in this Sermon, that LATIMER (himself an ex-Bishop) astonished his generation by saying that the Devil was the most diligent Prelate and Preacher in all England. “Ye shal neuer fynde him idle I warraunte you.”

## 3. STEPHEN GOSSON.

*Stud. Oxon.**The School of Abuse.* 1579.

(a) *The Schoole of Abuse. Conteining a pleasaunt inuective against Poets, Pipers, Plaiers, Jesters, and such like Caterpillers of a Commonwealth; Setting up the Flagge of Defiance to their mischievous exercise and ouerthrowing their Bulwarkes, by Prophane Writers, Naturall reason and common exprience.* 1579.

(b) *An Apologie of the Schoole of Abuse, against Poets, Pipers, Players, and their Excusers.* [Dec.] 1579.

∴ This attack is thought to have occasioned SIR PHILIP SIDNEY's writing of the following *Apologie for Poesie*.

GOSSON was, in succession, Poet, Actor, Dramatist, Satirist, and a Puritan Clergyman.

## 4. Sir PHILIP SIDNEY.

An Apology for Poetry. [? 1580.]

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Above all things, Liberty.

## 7. ROGER ASCHAM.

Toxophilus. 1544.

*Toxophilus, the Schole of Shootinge, conteyned in two bookes.**To all Gentlemen and yomen of Englande, pleasaunte for theyr pastime to rede, and profitable for theyr use to follow both in war and peace.*

In a dialogue between *TOXOPHILUS* and *PHILOLOGUS*, ASCHAM not only gives us one of the very best books on Archery in our language; but as he tells King Henry VIII., in his Dedication, "this little treatise was purposed, begon, and ended of me, onelie for this intent, that Labour, Honest pastime, and Vertu might recover againe that place and right, that Idlenesse, Unthriftie Gaming, and Vice hath put them fro."

## 8. JOSEPH ADDISON.

Criticism on *Paradise Lost*. 1711-1712.

From the *Spectator*, being its Saturday issues between 31 December, 1711, and 3 May, 1712. In these papers, which constitute a Primer to *Paradise Lost*, ADDISON first made known, and interpreted to the general English public, the great Epic poem, which had then been published nearly half a century.

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## 9. JOHN LYLY,

*Novelist, Wit, Poet, and Dramatist.*

Euphues. 1579-1580.

*EUPHVES, the Anatomy af Wit. Very pleasant for all Gentlemen to reade, and most necessary to remember.**VVherein are conteined the delights that Wit followeth in his youth, by the pleasantnesse of loue, and the happinesse he reapeth in age by the perfectnesse of Wisedome. 1579.**EUPHUES and his England. Containing his voyage and aduentures, myxed with sundry pretie discourses of honest Loue, the description of the countrey, the Court, and the manners of that Isle. 1580.*

Of great importance in our Literary History.

10. GEORGE VILLIERS,  
*Second Duke of BUCKINGHAM.*  
 The Rehearsal. 1671.

*The Rehearsal, as it was Acted at the Theatre Royal.*

Many of the passages of anterior plays that were parodied in this famous Dramatic Satire on DRYDEN in the character of *BAYES*, are placed on opposite pages to the text. BRIAN FAIRFAX's remarkable life of this Duke of BUCKINGHAM is also prefixed to the play.

The Heroic Plays, first introduced by Sir W. D'AVENANT, and afterwards greatly developed by DRYDEN, are the object of this laughable attack. LACY, who acted the part of *BAYES*, imitated the dress and gesticulation of DRYDEN.

The Poet repaid this compliment to the Duke of BUCKINGHAM, in 1681, by introducing him in the character of *ZIMRA* in his *ABSOLOM and ACHITOPHEL*.

11. GEORGE GASCOIGNE,  
*Soldier and Poet.*  
 The Steel Glass, &c. 1576.

(a) *A Remembrance of the wel imployed life, and godly end, of GEORGE GASKOIGNE, Esquire, who deceased at Stalmford in Lincoln shire, the 7 of October, 1577. The reporte of GEOR. WHETSTONS, Gent. 1577.*

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Probably the fourth printed English Satire : those by BARCLAY, ROY, and Sir T. WYATT being the three earlier ones.

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*Afterwards Bishop of SALISBURY.*  
 Microcosmographie. 1628.

*Micro-cosmographie, or a Peece of the World discovered; in Essays and Characters.*

This celebrated book of Characters is graphically descriptive of the English social life of the time, as it presented itself to a young Fellow of Merton College, Oxford ; including *A She precise Hypocrite*, *A Sceptic in Religion*, *A good old man*, etc.

This Work is a notable specimen of a considerable class of books in our Literature, full of interest ; and which help Posterity much better to understand the Times in which they were written.

13. HUGH LATIMER,  
*Ex-Bishop of WORCESTER.*

Seven Sermons before Edward VI. 1549.

*The fyrste [—seuenth] Sermon of Mayster HUGHE LATIMER, whiche he preached before the Kynges Maiestie wythin his graces palayce at Westminster on each Friday in Lent. 1549.*

Sir JAMES MACKINTOSH. LATIMER, . . . brave, sincere, honest, inflexible, not distinguished as a writer or a scholar, but exercising his power over men's minds by a fervid eloquence flowing from the deep conviction which animated his plain, pithy, and free-spoken Sermons.—*History of England*, ii. 291. *Ed.* 1831.

## 14. Sir THOMAS MORE.

Translation of Utopia. 1516-1557.

*A frutefull and pleasaunt worke of the best state of a publique weale, and of the new yle called Utopia: VWritten in Latine by Sir THOMAS MORE, Knyght, and translated into Englyshe by RALPH ROBYNSON.*

LORD CAMPBELL. Since the time of PLATO there had been no composition given to the world which, for imagination, for philosophical discrimination, for a familiarity with the principles of government, for a knowledge of the springs of human action, for a keen observation of men and manners, and for felicity of expression, could be compared to the *Utopia*.—*Lives of the Lord Chancellors (Life of Sir. T. More)*, i. 583. *Ed.* 1845.

In the imaginary country of Utopia, MORE endeavours to sketch out a State based upon two principles—(1) community of goods, no private property; and consequently (2) no use for money.

## 15. GEORGE PUTTENHAM,

*A Gentleman Pensioner to Queen ELIZABETH.*

The Art of English Poesy. 1589.

*The Arte of English Poesie.*

*Contriuied into three Bookes: The first of POETS and POESIE, the second of PROPORTION, the third of ORNAMENT.*

W. OLDVS. It contains many pretty observations, examples, characters, and fragments of poetry for those times, now nowhere else to be met with.—*Sir WALTER RALEIGH*, liv. *Ed.* 1736.

O. GILCHRIST. On many accounts one of the most curious and entertaining, and intrinsically one of the most valuable books of the age of QUEEN ELIZABETH. The copious intermixture of contemporary anecdote, tradition, manners, opinions, and the numerous specimens of coeval poetry nowhere else preserved, contribute to form a volume of infinite amusement, curiosity, and value.—*Censura Literaria*, i. 339. *Ed.* 1805.

This is still also an important book on Rhetoric and the Figures of Speech.

## 16. JAMES HOWELL,

*Clerk of the Council to CHARLES I.; afterwards Historiographer to CHARLES II.*

## Instructions for Foreign Travel. 1642.

*Instructions for forreine travelle. Shewing by what cours, and in what compasse of time, one may take an exact Survey of the Kingdomes and States of Christendome, and arrive to the practical knowledge of the Languages, to good purpose.*

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## 17. NICHOLAS UDALL,

*Master, first of Eton College, then of Westminster School.*

## Roister Doister. [1553-1566.]

This is believed to be the first true English Comedy that ever came to the press.

From the unique copy, which wants a title-page, now at Eton College ; and which is thought to have been printed in 1566.

## Dramatis Personæ.

RALPH ROISTER DOISTER.

MATTHEW MERRYGREEK.

GAWIN GOODLUCK, *affianced to Dame Custance.*

TRISTRAM TRUSTY, *his friend.*

DOBINET DOUGHTY, "boy" to ROISTER DOISTER.

TOM TRUEPENNY, *servant to Dame Custance.*

SIM SURESBY, *servant to GOODLUCK.*

Scrivener.

Harpax.

Dame CHRISTIAN CUSTANCE, *a widow.*

MARGERY MUMBLECRUST, *her nurse.*

TIBET TALKAPACE } *her maidens.*

ANNOT ALYFACE } *her maidens.*

## 18. A Monk of Evesham,

The Revelation, &c. 1186[-1410]. 1485.

¶ Here begynnyth a marvellous reuelacion that was schewyd of almighty god by sent Nycholas to a monke of Euyshamme yn the days of Kynge Richard the fyrst. And the yere of oure lord, M.C. Lxxxvi.

One of the rarest of English books printed by one of the earliest of English printers, WILLIAM DE MACLINIA ; who printed this text about 1485, in the lifetime of CAXTON.

The essence of the story is as old as it professes to be ; but contains later additions, the orthography, being of about 1410. It is very devoutly written, and contains a curious Vision of Purgatory.

The writer is a prototype of BUNYAN ; and his description of the Gate in the Crystal Wall of Heaven, and of the solemn and marvellously sweet Peal of the Bells of Heaven that came to him through it, is very beautiful.

## 19. JAMES I.

## A Counterblast to Tobacco. 1604.

(a) *The Essays of a Prentise, in the Diuine Art of Poesie.*

Printed while JAMES VI. of Scotland, at Edinburgh in 1585; and includes *Ane Short treatise, conteining some Reulis and Cautelis to be obseruit and eschewit in Scottis Poesie*, which is another very early piece of printed Poetical Criticism.

(b) *A Counterblaste to Tobacco.* 1604.

To this text has been added a full account of the *Introduction and Early use of Tobacco in England*. The herb first came into use in Europe as a medicinal leaf for poultices: smoking it was afterwards learnt from the American Indians.

Our Royal Author thus sums up his opinion:—

“A custome lothsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmefull to the braine, dangerous to the lungs, and in the blacke stinking fume thereof, nearest resembling the horrible Stigian smoke of the pit that is bottomless.”

## 20. Sir ROBERT NAUNTON,

*Master of the Court of Wards.*

## Fragmenta Regalia. 1653.

*Fragmenta Regalia: or Observations on the late Queen ELIZABETH, her Times and Favourites.* [1630.]

Naunton writes:—

“And thus I have delivered up this my poor Essay; a little Draught of this great Princess, and her Times, with the Servants of her State and favour.”

## 21. THOMAS WATSON,

*Londoner, Student-at-Law.*

## Poems. 1582-1593.

(a) *The Ἔκατομπαθία or Passionate Centurie of Loue.*

Divided into two parts: whereof, the first expresseth the Author's sufferance in Loue: the latter, his long farewell to Loue and all his tyrannie. 1582.

(b) *MELIBŒUS, Sive Ecloga in obitum Honoratissimi Viri Domini FRANCISCI WALSINGHAMI.* 1590.(c) *The same translated into English, by the Author.* 1590.(d) *The Tears of Fancie, or Loue disdained.* 1593.

From the *unique* copy, wanting Sonnets 9-16, in the possession of S. CHRISTIE MILLER, Esq., of Britwell.

## 22. WILLIAM HABINGTON, Castara. 1640.

CASTARA. *The third Edition. Corrected and augmented.*

CASTARA was Lady LUCY HERBERT, the youngest child of the first Lord Powis; and these Poems were chiefly marks of affection during a pure courtship followed by a happy marriage. With these, are also Songs of Friendship, especially those referring to the Hon. GEORGE TALBOT.

In addition to these Poems, there are four prose Characters; on *A Mistress, A Wife, A Friend, and The Holy Man.*

## 23. ROGER ASCHAM, The Schoolmaster. 1570.

*The Scholemaster, or plane and perfite way of teachyng children to understand, write, and speake, in Latin tong, but specially purposed for the priuate brynging up of youth in Gentleman and Noble mens houses, &c.*

This celebrated Work contains the story of Lady JANE GREY's delight in reading *PLATO*, an attack on the *Italianated* Englishman of the time, and much other information not specified in the above title.

In it, ASCHAM gives us very fully his plan of studying Languages, which may be described as *the double translation of a model book.*

## 24. HENRY HOWARD, *Earl of SURREY.*

Sir THOMAS WYATT.  
NICHOLAS GRIMALD.

Lord VAUX.

Tottel's Miscellany. 5 June, 1557.

*Songes and Sonettes, vvritten by the right honourable Lorde HENRY HOWARD late Earle of SURREY, and other.*

With 39 additional Poems from the second edition by the same printer, RICHARD TOTTEL, of 31 July, 1557.

This celebrated Collection is the First of our Poetical Miscellanies, and also the first appearance in print of any considerable number of English Sonnets.

TOTTEL in his *Address to the Reader*, says:—

“That to haue wel written in verse, yea and in small parcelles, deserueth great praise, the workes of diuers Latines, Italians, and other, doe proue suffisently. That our tong is able in that kynde to do as praiseworthely as ye rest, the honorable stile of the noble earle of Surrey, and the weightinesse of the depewitted Sir Thomas Wyat the elders verse, with seuerall graces in sondry good Englishe writers, doe shew abundantly.”

## 25. Rev. THOMAS LEVER,

*Fellow and Preacher of St. John's College, Cambridge.*

## Sermons. 1550.

*(a) A fruiful Sermon in Paules church at London in the Shroudes.**(b) A Sermon preached the fourth Sunday in Lent before the Kynges Maiestie, and his honourable Counsell.**(c) A Sermon preached at Pauls Crosse. 1550.*

These Sermons are reprinted from the original editions, which are of extreme rarity. They throw much light on the communistic theories of the Norfolk rebels; and the one at Paul's Cross contains a curious account of Cambridge University life in the reign of EDWARD VI.

## 26. WILLIAM WEBBE,

*Graduate.*

## A Discourse of English Poetry. 1586.

*A Discourse of English Poetrie. Together with the Authors judgement, touching the reformation of our English Verse.*

Another of the early pieces of Poetical Criticism, written in the year in which SHAKESPEARE is supposed to have left Stratford for London.

Only two copies of this Work are known, one of these was sold for £64.

This Work should be read with STANYHURST'S *Translation of Æneid, I.-IV.*, 1582, see p. 64. WEBBE was an advocate of English Hexameters; and here translates VIRGIL's first two Elegies into them. He also translates into Sapphics COLIN'S Song in the Fourth Elogue of SPENSER'S *Shepherd's Calendar*.

## 27. FRANCIS BACON.

*afterwards Lord VERULAM Viscount ST. ALBANS.*

## A Harmony of the Essays, &amp;c. 1597-1626.

*And after my manner, I alter ever, when I add. So that nothing is finished, till all be finished.—Sir FRANCIS BACON, 27 Feb., 1610-[11].*

*(a) Essays, Religious Meditations, and Places of perswasion and dissuasion. 1597.**(b) The Writings of Sir FRANCIS BACON Knight the Kings Sollicitor General in Moralitie, Policie, Historie.**(c) The Essaies of Sir FRANCIS BACON Knight, the Kings Solliciter Generall.**(d) The Essaies or Counsells, Civill and Morall of FRANCIS Lord VERULAM, Viscount ST. ALBAN. 1625.*

28. WILLIAM ROY. JEROME BARLOW.  
*Franciscan Friars.*

Read me, and be not wroth! [1528.]

(a) *Rede me and be nott wrothe,  
For I saye no thyng but trothe.  
I will ascende makyng my state so hye,  
That my pompos honoure shall never dye.  
O Caytyfe when thou thyngest least of all,  
With confusion thou shalt have a fall.*

This is the famous satire on CARDINAL WOLSEY, and is the First English Protestant book ever printed, not being a portion of Holy Scripture. See p. 22 for the Fifth such book.

The next two pieces form one book, printed by HANS LUFT, at Marburg, in 1530.

(b) *A proper dyaloge, betwene a Gentillman and a husbandman, eche complaynyng to other their miserable calamite, through the ambicion of the clergye.*

(c) *A compendious old treatyse, shewynge, how that we ought to have the scripture in Englysshe.*

## 29. Sir WALTER RALEIGH. GERVASE MARKHAM. J. H. VAN LINSCHOTEN.

The Last Fight of the "Revenge." 1591.

(a) *A Report of the truth of the fight about the Iles of Acores, this last la Sommer. Betwixt the REUENGE, one of her Maiesties Shippes, and an ARMADA of the King of Spaine.*

[By Sir W. RALEIGH.]

(b) *The most honorable Tragedie of Sir RICHARD GRINUILE, Knight. 1595.*

[By GERVASE MARKHAM.]

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1. William Caxton,  
*our first Printer.*

*Translation of REYNARD THE FOX.* 1481.

[COLOPHON.] *I haue not added ne mynusshed but haue folowed as nyghe as I can my copye which was in dutche / and by me WILLIAM CAXTON translated in to this rude and symple englyssh in th[e] abbey of westmestre.*

Interesting for its own sake; but especially as being translated as well as printed by CAXTON, who finished the printing on 6 June, 1481.

The Story is the History of the Three fraudulent Escapes of the Fox from punishment, the record of the Defeat of Justice by flattering lips and dishonourable deeds. It also shows the struggle between the power of Words and the power of Blows, a conflict between Mind and Matter. It was necessary for the physically weak to have Eloquence: the blame of REYNARD is in the frightful misuse he makes of it.

The author says, "There is in the world much seed left of the Fox, wh[i]ch now over all groweth and cometh sore up, though they have no red beards."

2. John Knox,  
*the Scotch Reformer.*

**THE FIRST BLAST OF THE TRUMPET, &c.**  
1558.

(a) *The First Blast of a Trumpet against the monstrous Regiment of Women.*

(b) *The Propositions to be entreated in the Second BLAST.*

This work was wrung out of the heart of JOHN KNOX, while, at Dieppe, he heard of the martyr fires of England, and was anguished thereby. At that moment the liberties of Great Britain, and therein the hopes of the whole World, lay in the laps of four women—MARY of Loraine, the Regent of Scotland; her daughter MARY (the Queen of Scots); Queen MARY TUDOR; and the Princess ELIZABETH.

The Volume was printed at Geneva.

(c) *KNOX's apologetical Defence of his FIRST BLAST, &c., to Queen ELIZABETH.* 1559.

3. Clement Robinson,  
*and divers others.*

**A HANDFUL OF PLEASANT DELIGHTS.**  
1584.

*A Handeful of pleasant delites, Containing sundrie new Sonets and delectable Histories, in diuers kindes of Meeter. Newly deuised to the newest tunes that are now in use, to be sung: euerie Sonet orderly pointed to his proper Tune. With new additions of certain Songs, to verie late deuised Notes, not commonly knownen, nor vsed heretofore.*

*OPHELIA* quotes from *A Nosegaiet, &c.*, in this Poetical Miscellany; of which only one copy is now known.

It also contains the earliest text extant of the *Ladie Greensleeues*, which first appeared four years previously.

This is the Third printed Poetical Miscellany in our language.

4. [Simon Fish,  
*of Gray's Inn.*]A SUPPLICATION FOR THE BEGGARS.  
[? 1529.]*A Supplicacyon for the Beggars.*

Stated by J. Fox to have been distributed in the streets of London on Candlemas Day [2 Feb., 1529].

This is the Fifth Protestant book (not being a portion of Holy Scripture that was printed in the English Language).

The authorship of this anonymous tract, is fixed by a passage in Sir T. MORE's *Apology*, of 1533, quoted in the Introduction.

5. [Rev. John Udall,  
*Minister at Kingston on Thames.*]

## DIOTREPHESES. [1588.]

*The state of the Church of Englande, laid open in a conference betweene DIOTREPHESES a Byshopp, TERTULLUS a Papiste, DEMETRIUS an usurer, PANDOCHUS an Innekeeper, and PAULE a preacher of the word of God.*

This is the forerunning tract of the *MARTIN MARPRELATE Controversy*. For the production of it, ROBERT WALDEGRAVE, the printer, was ruined; and so became available for the printing of the Martinist invectives.

The scene of the Dialogue is in PANDOCHUS's Inn, which is in a posting-town on the high road from London to Edinburgh.

## 6. [ ? ]

THE RETURN FROM PARNASSUS.  
[Acted 1602.] 1606.

*The Returne from Pernassus: or The Scourge of Simony. Publiquely acted by the Students in Saint Johns Colledge in Cambridge.*

This play, written by a University man in December, 1601, brings WILLIAM KEMP and RICHARD BURBAGE on to the Stage, and makes them speak thus :

“ KEMP. Few of the vniuersity pen plaies well, they smell too much of that writer *Ovid* and that writer *Metamorphosis*, and talke too much of *Proserpina* and *Inuppiter*. Why herees our fellow *Shakespeare* puts them all downe, I [Ay] and *Ben Jonson* too. O that *Ben Jonson* is a pestilent fellow, he brought vp *Horace* giuing the Poets a pill, but our fellow *Shakespeare* hath given him a purge that made him beray his credit :

“ BURBAGE. It's a shrewd fellow indeed : ”

What this controversy between SHAKESPEARE and JONSON was, has not yet been cleared up. It was evidently recent, when (in Dec., 1601) this play was written.

7. Thomas Decker,

*The Dramatist.*

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS OF  
LONDON, &c. 1606.

*The seuen deadly Sinnen of London: drawn in seuen seuerall Coaches, through the seuen seuerall Gates of the Citie, bringing the Plague with them.*

A prose Allegorical Satire, giving a most vivid picture of London life, in October, 1606.

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LYING.

CANDLELIGHT (*Deeds of Darkness*).

SLOTH.

APISHNESS (*Changes of Fashion*).

SHAVING (*Cheating*), and CRUELTY.

Their chariots, drivers, pages, attendants, and followers, are all allegorically described.

8. *The Editor.*

AN INTRODUCTORY SKETCH TO THE  
MARTIN MARPRELATE CONTROVERSY.

1588-1590.

- (a) *The general Episcopal Administration, Censorship, &c.*
- (b) *The Origin of the Controversy.*
- (c) *Depositions and Examinations.*
- (d) *State Documents.*
- (e) *The Brief held by Sir JOHN PUCKERING, against the Martinists.*

The REV. J. UDALL (who was, however, *not* a Martinist) ; Mrs. CRANE, of Molesey, Rev. J. PENRY, Sir R. KNIGHTLEY, of Fawsley, near Northampton ; HUMPHREY NEWMAN, the London cobbler ; JOHN HALES, Esq., of Coventry ; Mr. and Mrs. WEEKSTON, of Wolston : JOB THROCKMORTON, Esq. ; HENRY SHARPE, bookbinder of Northampton, and the four printers.

- (f) *Miscellaneous Information.*
- (g) *Who were the Writers who wrote under the name of MARTIN MARPRELATE ?*

9. [Rev. John Udall,

*Minister at Kingston on Thames.]*

A DEMONSTRATION OF DISCIPLINE. 1588.

*A Demonstration of the trueth of that discipline which CHRISTE hath prescribed in his worde for the gouernement of his Church, in all times and places, vntil the ende of the worlde.*

Printed with the secret Martinist press, at East Molesey, near Hampton Court, in July, 1588 ; and secretly distributed with the *Epitome* in the following November.

For this Work, UDALL lingered to death in prison.

It is perhaps the most complete argument, in our language, for Presbyterian Puritanism, as it was then understood. Its author asserted for it, the infallibility of a Divine Logic ; but two generations had not passed away, before (under the teachings of Experience) much of this Church Polity had been discarded.

10. Richard Stanyhurst,  
*the Irish Historian.**Translation of ÆNEID I.-IV. 1582.*

*Thee first foyre Bookes of VIRGIL his Æneis translated intoo English heroical [i.e., hexameter] verse by RICHARD STANYHURST, wyth oother Poëtical diuises theretoo annexed.*

*Imprinted at Leiden in Holland by IOHN PATES, Anno M.D.LXXXII.*

This is one of the oddest and most grotesque books in the English language ; and having been printed in Flanders, the original Edition is of *extreme* rarity.

The present text is, by the kindness of Lord ASHBURNHAM and S. CHRISTIE-MILLER, Esq., reprinted from the only two copies known, neither of which is quite perfect.

GABRIEL HARVEY desired to be epitaphed, *The Inventor of the English Hexameter* ; and STANYHURST, in imitating him, went further than any one else in maltreating English words to suit the exigencies of Classical feet.

11. *Martin Marprelate.***THE EPISTLE.** 1588.

*Oh read ouer D. JOHN BRIDGES, for it is a worthy worke : Or an epitome of the fyrste Booke of that right worshipfull volume, written against the Puritanes, in the defence of the noble cleargie, by as worshipfull a prieste, JOHN BRIDGES, Presbyter, Priest or Elder, doctor of Diuillitie, and Deane of Sarum.*

*The Epitome [p. 26] is not yet published, but it shall be, when the Byshops are at convenient leysure to view the same. In the meane time, let them be content with this learned Epistle.*

*Printed oversea, in Europe, within two furlongs of a Bounsing Priest, at the cost and charges of M. MARPRELATE, gentleman.*

## 12. Robert Greene, M.A.

**MENAPHON.** 1589.

MENAPHON. CAMILLAS alarum to slumbering EUPHUES, in his melancholie Cell at Silexedra. VVherein are deciphered the variable effects of Fortune, the wonders of Loue, the triumphes of inconstant Time. Displaying in sundrie conceipted passions (figured in a continuatue Historie) the Trophees that Virtue carrieth triumphant, maugre the wrath of Enuie, or the resolution of Fortune.

One of GREENE's novels with TOM NASH's Preface, so important in reference to the earlier *HAMLET*, before SHAKESPEARE's tragedy.

GREENE's "love pamphlets" were the most popular Works of Fiction in England, up to the appearance of Sir P. SIDNEY's *Arcadia* in 1590.

13. George Joy,  
*an early Protestant Reformer.*

**AN APOLOGY TO TINDALE.** 1535.

*An Apologye made by GEORGE JOYE to satisfye (if it may be) W. TINDALE: to pourge and defende himself ageinst so many sclauderouse lyes fayned upon him in TINDAL'S vncharitable and unsobere Pystle so well worthye to be prefixed for the Reader to induce him into the understanding of hys new Testament diligently corrected and printed in the yeare of our Lorde, 1534, in Nouember [Antwerp, 27 Feb., 1535].*

This almost lost book is our only authority in respect to the surreptitious editions of the English *New Testament*, which were printed for the English market with very many errors, by Antwerp printers who knew not English, in the interval between TINDALE'S first editions in 1526, and his revised Text (above referred to) in 1534.

14. Richard Barnfield.  
*of Darlaston, Staffordshire.*

**POEMS.** 1594-1598.

*The affectionate Shepherd. Containing the Complaint of DAPHNIS for the Loue of GANYMEDE.*

In the following Work, BARNFIELD states that this is "an imitation of Virgill, in the second Eglogue of *Alexis*."

*CYNTHIA. With Certaine Sonnets, and the Legend of CAS- SANDRA.* 1595.

The Author thus concludes his Preface: "Thus, hoping you will beare with my rude conceit of *Cynthia* (if for no other cause, yet, for that it is the First Imitation of the verse of that excellent Poet, Maister *Spencer*, in his *Fayrie Queene*), I leave you to the reading of that, which I so much desire may breed your delight."

*The Encomion of Lady PECUNIA: or, The Praise of Money.*  
1598.

Two of the Poems in this Text have been wrongly attributed to SHAKESPEARE. The disproof is given in the Introduction.

15. T[homas] C[oooper].  
*[Bishop of WINCHESTER.]*

**ADMONITION TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.**

*An admonition to the people of England. VVherein are answerved, not onley the slanderous vntruethes, reprochfully vttered by MARTIN the Libeller, but also many other Crimes by some of his broode, objected generally against all Bishops, and the chiefe of the Cleargie, purposely to deface and discredit the present state of the Church.* [Jan. 1589].

This is the official reply on the part of the Hierarchy, to MARTIN MAR- PRELATE's *Epistle* of [Nov.] 1508: see No. 11. on p. 24.

It was published between the appearance of the *Epistle* and that of the *Epitome*.

## 16. Captain John Smith,

*President of Virginia, and Admiral of New England.*

WORKS.—1608-1631. 2 vols. 12s. 6d.

A complete edition, with six facsimile plates.

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- (5.) *The History of Virginia, New England, and Bermuda.* 1624.
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(1.) *Of the new landes, etc.* Printed at Antwerp about 1511. This is the first English book in which the word America [*i.e.* Armonica] occurs.

(2.) *A Treatise of the new India, etc.* Translated by RICHARD EDEN from SEBASTIAN MUENSTER'S *Cosmography*: and printed in 1553. *The Second English Book on America.*

(3.) *The Decades of the New World, etc.*, by PIETRO MARTIRE [PETRUS MARTYR], translated by RICHARD EDEN, and printed in 1555. *The Third English Book on America.* SHAKESPEARE obtained the character of CALIBAN from this Work.

## A List of 837 London Publishers, 1553-1640.

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In 1524 TINDALE went from London to Hamburg; where remaining for about a year, he journeyed on to Cologne; and there, assisted by WILLIAM ROY, subsequently the author of the satire on WOLSEY, *Rede me and be nott wrothe* [see p. 19], he began this first edition in 4to, with *glosses*, of the English New Testament.

A virulent enemy of the Reformation, COCHLÆUS, at that time an exile in Cologne, learnt, through giving wine to the printer's men, that P. QUENTAL the printer had in hand a secret edition of three thousand copies of the English New Testament. In great alarm, he informed HERMAN RINCK, a Senator of the city, who moved the Senate to stop the printing; but COCHLÆUS could neither obtain a sight of the Translators, nor a sheet of the impression.

TINDALE and ROY fled with the printed sheets up the Rhine to Worms; and there completing this edition, produced also another in 8vo, *without glosses*. Both editions were probably in England by March, 1526.

Of the six thousand copies of which they together were composed, there remain but this fragment of the First commenced edition, in 4to; and of the Second Edition, in 8vo, one complete copy in the Library of the Baptist College at Bristol, and an imperfect one in that of St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

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- VI. The persecution in England.

*Typographical and Literary Evidence connected with the present Fragment—*

- I. It was printed for TINDALE by PETER QUENTAL at Cologne, before 1526.
- II. It is not a portion of the separate Gospel of *Matthew* printed previous to that year.
- III. It is therefore certainly a fragment of the Quarto.

*Is the Quarto a translation of LUTHER'S German Version?*  
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\* \* \* For a continuation of this Story see G. Joy's *Apology* at p. 25.

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